

John Randolph to Andrew Jackson, May 30, 1831, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

JOHN RANDOLPH TO JACKSON.

London, May 30, 1831.

. . . . What you say about my return to Congress is most soothing and flattering but I have long ago requested that my name should be withdrawn. My health is so entirely undermined that I have no prospect of being able to discharge the duties of the station, and events which have since transpired give me additional motives for withdrawing. It will prevent strife where there should only be union and firm concord, and although my letters assure me that not a doubt exists on the subject of my election, I am not sorry that many of my friends as well as those of the other party will be relieved from the unpleasant necessity of a selection, where it might give them pain to vote against either.

I have recd. letters from Mr Clay as late as the 12th of this month. He is conducting himself to my entire satisfaction. The promised answer of Count Nesselrode is not yet received. It was to have been sent thro' Prince Lieven. I had a good deal of conversation with His Highness, on Saturday at Lord Palmerston's, but I did not choose to advert to this subject. His manner to me is invariably not merely courteous, which it is to all, but cordial in the highest degree.

It is uncertain whether I shall be able to return to the U. S. this season. I await with some impatience of the delays of the winds and waves a reply to my letter of the 6th of April, which went by the Packet of the 8th and which I hope to receive in the course of the next month. It is I am sure unnecessary for me to declare the sentiments with which I have

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witnessed the illiberal and unfair opposition to you. Betide what may, I can offer you the assurance of at least one disinterested and zealous supporter however feeble and insignificant he may be.

With fervent wishes for your welfare and prosperity I remain Dear Sir your obliged and faithful friend and Servant